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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yasuhiro MOURI, Toshisada KOYAMA

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: July 11, 2001

Docket No.: 110092

For: PIVOT ASSEMBLY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3-4 as follows:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

A¹ 3. (Amended) The pivot assembly according to claim 1, wherein a spacer is interposed between said pair of ball bearings.

4. (Amended) The pivot assembly according to claim 1, wherein each of said pair of ball bearings has an extension formed on one side of an outer ring thereof, and said pair of ball bearings are mounted onto said fixed shaft with said extensions abutted against each other.

Please add new claims 5-7 as follows:

A² --5. The pivot assembly according to claim 2, wherein a spacer is interposed between said pair of ball bearings. --